

NO. 17.



BULLETIN OF FOREIGN PLANT INTRODUCTIONS.

May 20 to June 10, 1909.

NEW PLANT IMMIGRANTS.

ACACIA CATECHU. 25543. From Saharanpur, United Provinces, India. Presented by Prof. A. T. Gage. Received June 2. "A leguminous tree, native of India and East Africa. Naturalized in Jamaica, where it is common in dry locations. It is said to bear some frost and may prove hardy in favorable localities in the southern United States. The extract from the bark and wood forms the drug catechu, and the dyeing and tanning agent, cutch. (Stockberger.) Seed turned over to Dr. Stockberger for experiments in tannin production.

ANONA. 25528. From Paraguay, South America. Seeds presented by Mr. Thos. Gwynn. Received May 19. "Chirimonio" (Avatacuy.) "It is a large fruit, aromatic to the utmost; seed full of oil." (Gwynn.) For propagation; plants available later.

AVENA SATIVA. 25580-591 Twelve varieties of oats from Bucharest, Roumania. Presented by Hon. Horace G. Knowles. Received May 22.

CUCUMIS MELO. 25494-25503. Received from Mr. Jose D. Husband, Limavida, Chile, May 27. All sweet, thick flesh, good size, grown dry on low lands where corn and water-melons dried up on account of the unusual drought. Each of these ten numbers is a different kind.

ILEX PARAGUAYENSIS. 25529. From Paraguay, South America. Presented by Mr. Thos. Gwynn. Received May 19. "The tea of this country. To procure plants from this seed you will have to put it in hot water, about 90°F for 36 hours; then plant in a hot bed, the seed being buried about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch under a soft mould. When large enough to harvest you cut all the limbs and twigs, scorch well and dry over a hot fire, after which they are ground fine

and used as tea, being put in a small gourd with hot water poured on and a tube perforated at the bottom to suck up the same. (Gwynn.) For propagation; plants available later.

LOLIUM MULTIFLORUM. 25522. From Westerlee, Groningen, Holland. Presented by Hommo Ten Have. Received May 19. Western Wolths. "This new grass was produced by selection from ordinary rye grass in the county of Westerland, Holland, near the German frontier. In appearance the seed cannot be distinguished from Italian rye grass, but Western Wolths grass is strictly an annual plant and far surpasses Italian rye grass in the rapidity of its growth and the weight of herbage. On good soils, when top-dressed with nitrate of soda, it may be cut 5 or 6 times during the summer. It will thrive on almost all soils but best results are obtained on heavy loam, clay, or land of a somewhat damp character." (Extract from a circular issued by Hommo Ten Have, Wholesale Seed-Merchant.)

MEDICAGO SATIVA. 25537. From Mitchell, South Dakota. Presented by Prof. W. A. Wheeler. Received May 29. Baltic. "This strain, which was originally secured near Baltic, South Dakota, has proven extremely hardy and drought resistant; it possesses the same variegated flowers that are to be observed in the Grimm alfalfa and the commercial sand lucern. (Westgate.) For distribution by Office of Agrostologist.

MEDICAGO SATIVA. 25605-607. From Mitchell, South Dakota. Presented by Prof. W. A. Wheeler. Received June 7. These were originally from the South Dakota Breeding Station at Highmore. For distribution by Office of Agrostologist. 25605. Grimm. Grown from S.D. No. 162. This special lot proved the hardiest of the two lots of Grimm alfalfa under test. 25606. Turkestan. Grown from S.D. No. 164. In all the tests made at Brookings, and Highmore, S. D., this has appeared to be almost, if not quite, perfectly hardy. The best of all the Turk-

estan alfalfas tested under South Dakota conditions.
25607. Turkestan. Grown under S.D. No. 240 but originally from S.P.I. No. 999. Hardy but not a prolific seeder.

OLEA VERRUCOSA. 25520-521. Seeds and cuttings of a species of wild olive from Wellington, Cape of Good Hope, South Africa. Presented by Mr. Chas. R. Lounsbury. Received May 18. For propagation; plants available later.

ORYZA SATIVA. 25596-604. Nine varieties of rice from Port Of Spain, Trinidad. Purchased from Mr. F. Evans, acting superintendent, Botanical Department, Department of Agriculture. Received June 8.

PHASEOLUS CALCARATUS. 25523. Grown at Arlington Farm, Virginia, season of 1908. "A small, red-seeded variety obtained from the Tokyo Botanic Garden, Tokyo, Japan, in 1906. (C.V.Piper.)

TERMINALIA BELLERICA. 25541. **T. CHEBULA.** 25542. From Sibpur, Calcutta, India. Presented by Prof. A.T. Gage. Received June 22. 25541. *T. belerica*. A handsome tree native in southern Asia, the fruits of which, collected when full grown but still unripe, and dried in the sun, form the Beleric myrabolans of commerce. These fruits contain about 12 per cent of tannin, but as a tanning material are inferior to the fruits of the following species. 25542. *T. chebula*. A large, deciduous tree, occurring chiefly in the mountains of India. The fruits, known as Chebulic myrabolans, are extensively used in tanning, over 20,000,000 lbs. being imported into the United States in 1908 for that purpose. These fruits yield from 30 to 40 per cent of tannin, which occurs chiefly, in the pulp surrounding the kernel. The tree is occasionally cultivated up to 5000 feet in the Himalayas. Seedlings grown at Chattanooga, Tennessee, were cut down by frost." (Stockberger.) Seed turned over to Dr. Stockberger for experiments in tannin production.

TUMBOA BAINESII. 25436. Seeds from German Southwest Africa. Presented by Prof. J. Burt Davy. Received May 1. "A peculiar and rare monotypic plant of the deserts of German Southwest Africa. The short stem produces at its swollen apex, besides the cotyledons, in its entire lifetime only a single pair of yard long, ribbon-like leaves, between which are borne the cone-like inflorescences. The plant represents in its development (like *Gnetum*. See No. 19093) a transition stage between the lower Gymnosperms like the pines and the Angiosperms or flowering plants. (Fischer.) For propagation; plants available later.

VIGNA UNGUICULATA. From New Orleans, La. Purchased from the J. Steckler Seed Co. Received April 29. "This variety which is really a mixture of varieties is naturalized in parts of Louisiana where it volunteers from year to year. It has been grown at Arlington Farm, Virginia, for the past three years and proves to be a tall, upright quite leafy, late variety. Too late for this latitude but would probably be a valuable variety for Florida, where lateness is desired." (C. V. Piper.)

NOTES FROM FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.

ALGERIA, Lambese. A. Clave, May 28. In a month will send seeds of *Medicago sativa*, *M. getula* and *M. tunetana*. In the fall will send *Pyrus longipes*.

ARGENTINA, Buenos Aires. Chas. D. Girola, April 12. Is sending *schinopsis balansae* (Quebracho blanco) seed, the famous tannin tree of the Argentine.

AUSTRALIA, Brisbane. Ernest G. Scriven, April 20. Is sending *Citrus australis* and *C. australasica* var. *sanguinea*, the finger lime. Will try to get *C. inodora* (the north Queensland lime) and the *Atalantia glauca*. For experiments by the Office of Plant Life History Investigations.

BRAZIL, Para. Geo. H. Prekenell, May 10. Will send seeds of *Virola Surinamensis*, a relative of the soap-berries.

BRAZIL, Rio de Janeiro. Geo. E. Anderson, Consul-General, April 23. Is sending a sample of *Canham braziliensis*, a fiber plant known as Brazilian linen.

BRITISH HONDURAS, Belize. E.J.F. Campbell, June 3. Is sending a native plant, the tubers of which are eaten raw by the natives as a salad. It is called *Ecama*.

BULGARIA, Lovetch. Dora Davis, May 17. Describes two fruits growing in Bulgaria; one a red raspberry, fruit two centimeters in diameter, meaty, of good flavor and ripens fruit continuously throughout the summer. The other is a strawberry similar to those grown in Michigan, but it also ripens fruit continuously throughout the summer. The climate there is similar to that of Central Illinois.

CANARY ISLANDS, Teneriffe. Solomon Berliner, May 1. Is sending seeds of *Convolvulus althaeoides* and *C. florida*.

CHINA, Nodoa, Island of Hainan. Mrs. J. Franklin Kelly, April 8. Has about 20 leitchiee trees ready to ship and can start more, if desired, in about two months when the leitchiee season is on.

CHINA, Yachow. H. J. Openshaw, March 26. Is sending more varieties of beans. Mentions a splendid hard wood tree of that region called *Nan Mu*. It is insect proof and almost as hard as teak. It has seed and ought to grow in the lower altitudes.

COCHIN CHINA, Saigon. Jacob E. Conner, April 9. Is sending two kinds of rice; one known as *Baixu* or Siamese garden rice, which he thinks is the same as the *Sunejin*; the other called locally *Nep* or alcohol rice, is dark colored and corresponds, he thinks, to the *Patma*.

INDIA, Lahore, Punjab. W.R. Mustoe, May 13. Is sending 4 lbs. of Bael seed from Saharanpur. Will send fruits from Lahore. Will send fruits and photos of the trees during this month. Says these come true to seed.

INDIA, Sibpur, Calcutta. Royal Botanic Garden, May 11. Is sending *Caesalpinia sappan* seed. This is a tannin plant for Dr. Stockberger's use.

JAVA, Lawang. M. Buysman, April 27. Sends seeds of *Canarium commune*, *Mucuna gigantea* and *M. capitata*.

MADEIRA, Funchal. Alaricus Delmard, May 23. Is sending plants of *Semele androgyna*, an ornamental plant of that region.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, Manila. Wm. S. Lyon, April 27. Is sending *Barleria flava*, a dwarf yellow-flowered shrub, very floriferous over a period of six months. Thrives at sea-level in shallow, rocky soils, where exposed to nearly continuous drought from January to May. (Lyon.)

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, Dumanhug, Cebu. H.S. Tenerife, May 7. Can send seeds of sugar apple (*Anona squamosa*), Jackfruit (*Artocarpus integrifolia*), Custard apple (*Anona reticulata*), Otaheite gooseberry (*Phyllanthus distichus*), Lemon guava (*Psidium guayava*), Jambula plum (*Eugenia Jambulana*), pomegranate, mango, Santol (*Sandoricum indicum*.)

RHODESIA, Umtali. H. D. Warne, April 22. Says that the Rapoko is used by natives to make a thick mush which they eat, and also to make beer.

TRANSVAAL, Pretoria. B. P. Evans, April 13. Says that it is too late to get *Chrysophyllum majalis montana* this season, but he will send it in October.

RECENT VISITORS.

PALESTINE. Mr. Aaronshon, Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station in Palestine, will be in this country until the last of October. Anyone wishing to get in touch with him can do so through this office. He is preparing a bulletin to be published by the Bureau on the wild dry-land wheats and the many other interesting dry land crops of Palestine. He has sent for specimens of the wild wheats which will be on exhibition here when they arrive.